

WHEEL OF FORTUNE GROWING PAINS COSBY SHOW WHO'S THE BOSS

No.
266
October
1986

MAD

IND

Our
Price
\$1.35
Cheap!

HOT TV ISSUE



10



We are experiencing
technical difficulties—
Please Stand By

70989 33230

TWO GROSS FOR COMFORT!

First, you'll
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ecchy chapter in
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A Pretentious Compendium Of

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STUPID QUESTIONS

By Al Jaffee

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It's about moronic questions like THAT and lively answers like THESE.

It's about 11 inches tall and 8½ inches wide.

It's about the most ridiculous idea for a book ever conceived.

It's about time that clod out there stops reading this cover and starts buying the book.

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collection of
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MAD

"It's no wonder politicians don't listen to their conscience. They don't want to take advice from a total stranger." —Alfred E. Neuman

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LEONARD BRENNER *art director* TOM NOZKOWSKI *production*
CHARLIE KADAU, JOE RAIOLA, SARA FOWLER *editorial assistants*
DICK DE BARTOLO *scripting consultant*

DICK DE BARTOLO *creative consultant*

JACK ALBERT *lawsuits* ANNE GRIFFITHS *logistics*
GLORIA ORLANDO, M.C. GAINES, TINA HOLLOWAY *subscriptions*
CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS AND WRITERS *the usual gang of idiots*

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COVER ARTIST: MORT DAISYER

COVER IDEA: THE EDITORS



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**HOW PBS
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FROM
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TV THEME
SONGS
Pg. 34

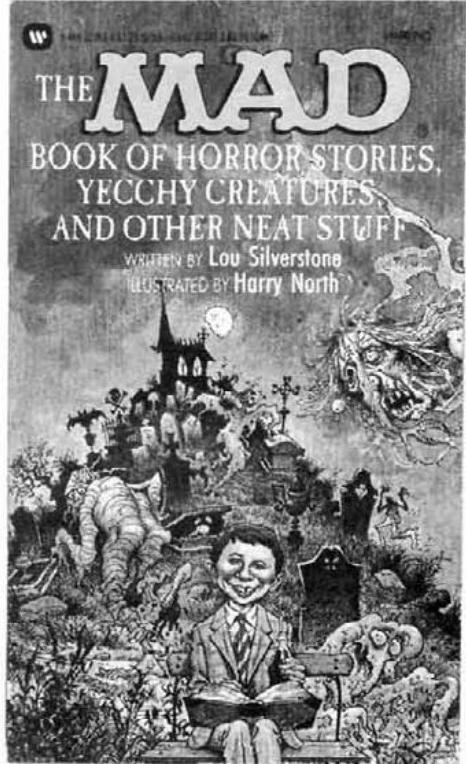


**"GROANING
PAINS"
(A MAD TV
SATIRE)**



**UPCOMING
TV COP
“TEAMS”**

BIG ISSUES



"CRITTER'S RAVE!"

*"I Howled!"
—Wolfman*

*"Talk about Monstrosities!"
—Dr. Frankenstein*

*"It Sucks!"
—Dracula*

**LURKING AT A BOOK-
STORE NEAR YOU!
OWN IT BY COFFIN
UP SOME MONEY!**

LETTERS AND TOMATOES DEPT.



"MOONFIGHTING"

I enjoyed your TV Satire "Moonfighting." This show puts to rest the old ventriloquist's rule which states that the act will best succeed by using only one dummy!

Tom Takach
St. Petersburg, FL

WRESTLING WITH OUR COVERS

Regarding the cover and contents of MAD #264: I'm tired of seeing Hulk "Blabbermouth" Hogan! Please don't picture him in MAD anymore!

Brian Barnett
N. Huntington, PA

If you think Hulk is a blabbermouth, then what have you got to say about Joan Rivers on this month's cover? —Ed.



A COUPLE OF GEMS

As the writers of "The Jewel Of The Nile," we were relaxing in our office when none other than mysterious Arab Omar Khalifa barged in, tied us up and committed the most heinous of crimes... he made us read "The Fool Of The Nile" in MAD #263!! Please save us from this slow death! We can't last much longer!

Mark Rosenthal
Larry Konner
Marina Del Rey, CA

"ALL-WHITE SONG"

I read your "All-White Song" and I think it was rude to make fun of blacks like you did. There are a lot of funny things in MAD and you don't have to put down an entire race of people to get laughs. You make a real good magazine without all that stuff in it.

Jamie Copeland
Townville, PA

I just read your parody "All-White Song." It's good to see MAD is still tackling tough issues by taking a strong stand against apartheid. The only sad thing is there are probably some idiots out there who don't understand satire and will accuse you of being bigoted yourselves. As a longtime MAD fan, I love having a few good laughs at the expense of dictators, fanatics and racists!

Lou Pisani
Pompano Beach, FL

LET HE WHO IS WITHOUT SIN CAST THE FIRST STALLONE

Bravo to your satire "When The Rambo Influence Spreads Everywhere" in MAD #264. Thank goodness MY country isn't symbolized by a blood-thirsty, musclebound dobe with a guttural vocabulary!

D.L.
Alberta, Canada

How quickly we forget Maggie Trudeau! —Ed.

ELEMENTARY READING

I think MAD magazine is the best magazine ever made, but Playboy and Penthouse are almost as good. I am a fourth grader at St. Raphael School.

Justin Smith
Springfield, OH

Hmmm...What are the third graders reading? —Ed.



Jewel Of The Nile writers Rosenthal and Konner enjoy (?) MAD with the help of Omar Khalifa (actor Spiros Focas).

A MAD INFLUENCE ON YOUTH?

Your magazine has had a wonderful effect on my son. Because of all the political references he didn't understand, he now watches the evening news. From learning about current events, he can now understand the satire in MAD. I read it too, and think MAD is an underrated publication deserving of more recognition!

Julie McClure
Bradenton, FL

Thanks for your kind letter. We do feel, however, that since your son is 32, he should be picking up the political references on his own.—Ed.

UNMISTAKABLY MAD

You morons finally had a mathematically correct article! In "Why 999 Shoppers Out Of 1,000 Never Collect Those Manufacturers' Rebates" all of the numbers actually add up to 999! I couldn't believe it! Congratulations on what must be a first!

Matt Cohen
Frederick, MD

misstakes in those pages. Ho! Ho!—Ed.
our act and you won't be so long and more
that's right. Mort, we've finally cleaned up

THE ENVELOPE PLEASE...

When someone at MAD wins an award, we think it's a big deal. Mort Drucker, our own master of movie satires, recently beat out 77 other artists to win the National Cartoonists Society's prestigious Reuben Award for his work in MAD! Congratulations, Mort, and like we said—Big deal!



Drucker draws himself

MORON MAIL

In Al Jaffee's "Snappy Answers To Stupid Questions In A Video Rental Store," when the customer asked if the films were dirty, the clerk should have replied "No, we had them dry cleaned this morning!"

Robert Erck
Lombard, IL

Al didn't use that line, Robert, because MAD is a humor magazine.—Ed.

RELATIVELY SPEAKING

On your letters page in MAD #265 (Sept. '86) the last letter was from a girl named Laura Elizabeth Bucci. I happen to know she is William Gaines's granddaughter! When is blatant nepotism like this in MAD going to stop?

Corey Jonathan Mifsud
York, PA

Please Address All Correspondence To:
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MAD welcomes reader submissions. Manuscripts will not be returned or acknowledged, however, unless they are accompanied by a self-addressed clamped envelope!

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MR. MOM-A MIA DEPT.

You may think that in the world of network television, ABC stands for the "American Broadcasting Company." But judging by one of its current shows, ABC must really mean "Another Boring Comedy!" This alleged sitcom is all about a career woman, her ex-jock housekeeper, and her sexpot mother. All three are equals—they're all idiots! So, no matter who's in charge, can't we say that the...



My name is Toenail Missilly! In dis house, I do all da cookin', cleanin', washin', ironin', and baby-sittin'. Dat's how I stay in such good shape! Not from da work, but from defendin' myself from da name-callin' when I tell my street buddies I cook, clean, wash, iron and baby-sit for a livin'! Dose guys say I only got brawn, but they're wrong! I got muscles, too!

I'm Angina Bowser, a very successful advertising executive, and I'm proud to be a working woman! I'm living proof that women don't have to stay at home and do menial, unrewarding housework! I'm proof that women can do something really important—like hiring a man to do their menial, unrewarding housework!

I'm Angina's mother, Moona Robinthecradle! My philosophy on men can be summed up in one word: YES!!! I don't want to say that I'm preoccupied with sex, but why don't you stop reading this balloon and kiss me!



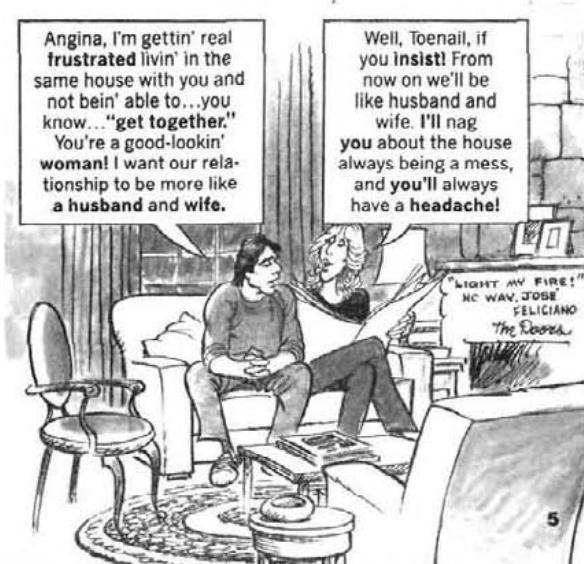


BOOB'S

THE BOSS?

ARTIST: MORT DRUCKER

WRITER: DENNIS SNEE



Angina, c'mon in! Dese are my poker paisanos! Meet Sal the Stevedore, Pasta Pauli, Big Nick, Little Nick and Teddy the Teamster, Junior.

How colorfull!

You like their names?

I'm talking about their undershirts! With the spaghetti sauce stains, it's kind of a "Ragu Rainbow" effect!

Hey, Big Nick! Dese meatball sandwiches your old lady Meg made us are pretty good!

Dat's the problem. When I get home tonight, I won't have any good reason to slap her around!

Hey, dat's reason enough! A woman who don't give you no reason deserves to be slapped around!

Toenail, could I see you for just one moment?



Toenail, I don't think your friends should come around here anymore.

Hey, whadda ya talkin' 'bout? Doze guys are my buddies! We're not hurtin' the house! We're not hurtin' the kids! Who we hurtin'?

Just the image of millions of Italian-Americans!

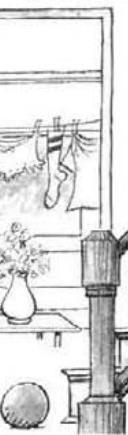


Mr. Missilly, I'm Miss Primrose, from the Office of Child Welfare. I understand you're providing child care here and I've been sent to check on your qualifications.

Well, I dunno about no qualifications, but I ain't heard no complaints from anybody dat lives in dis here house!

There's also a criminal charge.

Murdering the English language!



I will give you a field evaluation. If you pass, you can care for the children. If you fail, someone else will have to care for them.

Gee, that's a pretty stupid idea.

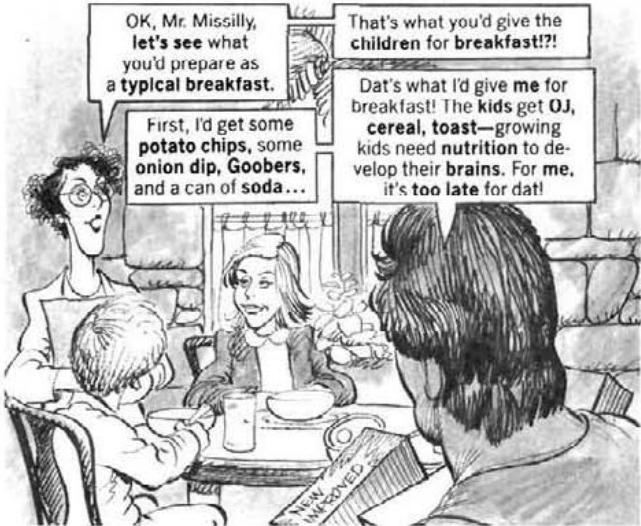
I'm a civil servant! We're specially trained to come up with stupid ideas!

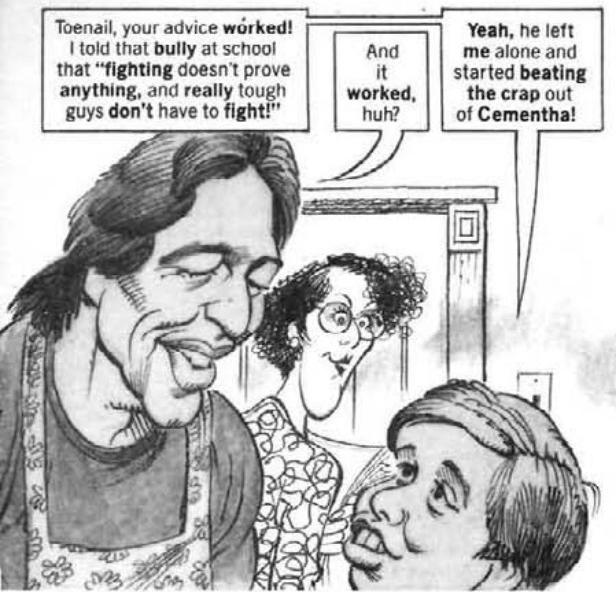
So dat's da story! If Miss Primrose decides I ain't qualified, I won't be able to take care of da kids anymore!

Look on the bright side. If you leave, you can probably make a lot more money as a male stripper.

Who's talking about clubs? I'm talking about upstairs in my apartment!









ONE THURSDAY MORNING ON EAST 12th STREET



In the old days of television, people only had a few measly channels of boring programs to choose from. As a result, they usually spent all their time turning the selector knob to switch from station to station, vainly searching for something to watch. Now, with

MAD'S CABLE

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



CLICK!



... "Weird Al" Yankovic.
What a nutty guy!
Up next, an MTV
World Premiere
Video from...



CLICK!



AM-RUSH
FRIDAY



CLICK!

...bedroom. Others may find it more arousing to make love in the back seat of a car or in the serene splendor of a...



CLICK!



cable TV, people have *dozens* of channels to choose from. Of course, the programs are as boring as ever, so now they spend all their time pushing the buttons on the cable box to switch from station to station, which creates a strange kind of craziness that we call...

TV ROULETTE

PHOTO CREDITS: AP/WIDEWORLD; LIFETIME/ABC; UP/BETTMANN NEWSPHOTOS; THE WEATHER CHANNEL; ESPN; DIAMOND DAVE PROD.



...the **Lord God Almighty!** When you send us **money**, you're really sending it to Him. 'cause we're doing **HIS** work, the work of...



...sex therapy. Listen to me, caller. If you really want to have exciting and pleasurable sex...



...flabby thighs and sagging buttocks! So let's start getting in shape! Ready? One...two...one...two...



...won two from the **Dodgers** yesterday. But today, they're playing like...



...locker room. Well, while they're changing pitchers, let's switch back to Madrid for more of those exciting...



...arm flexing-exercises! Let's go, put some OOMPH into it! I don't have to tell you that...

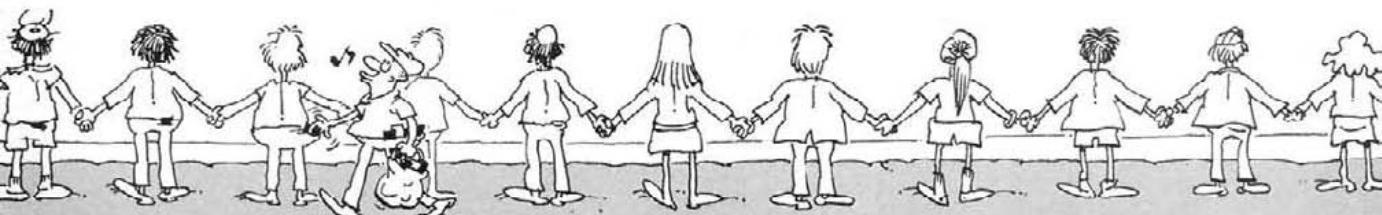
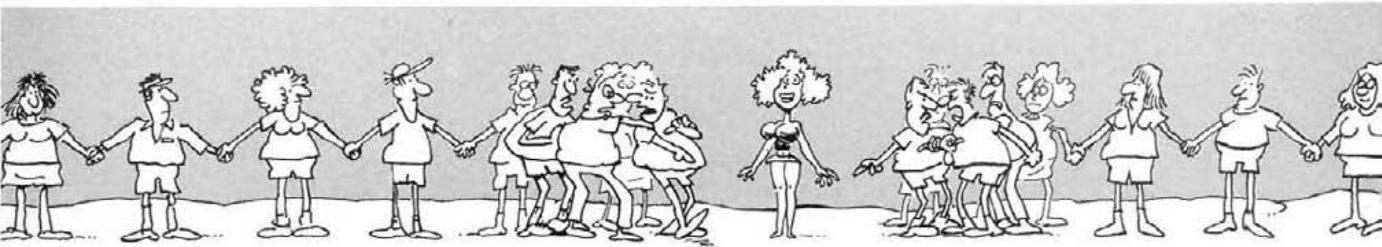
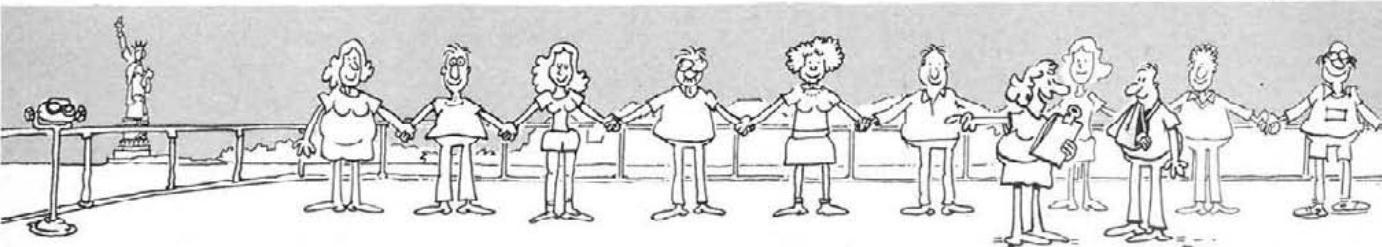


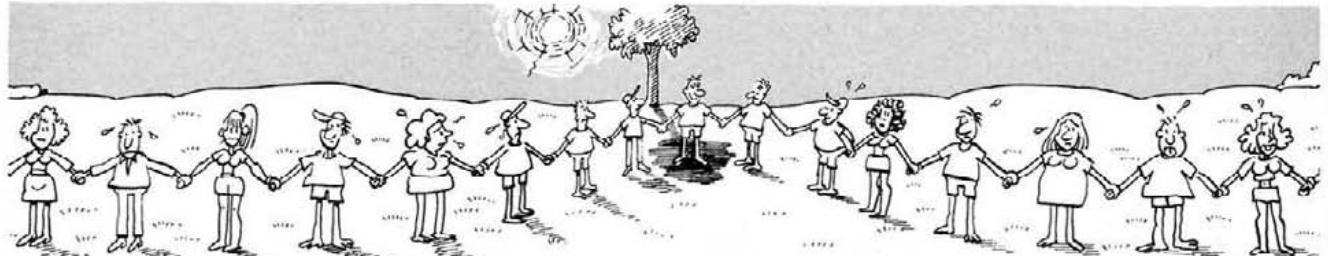
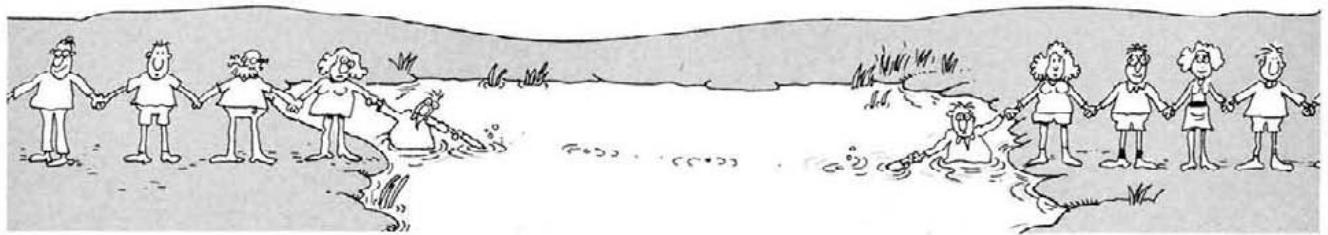
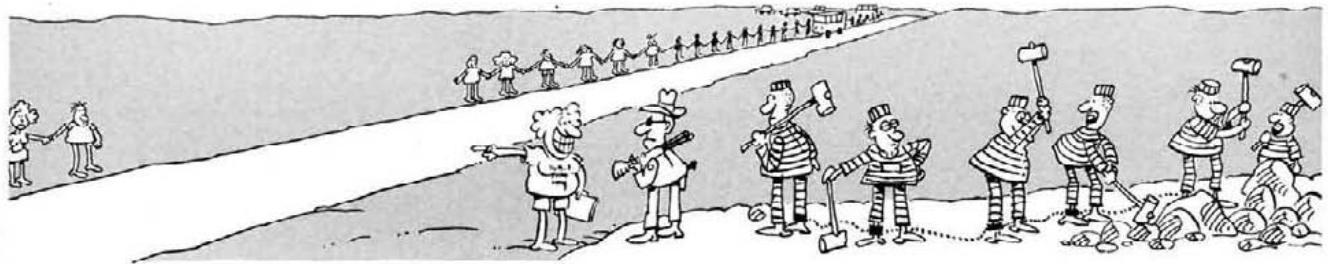
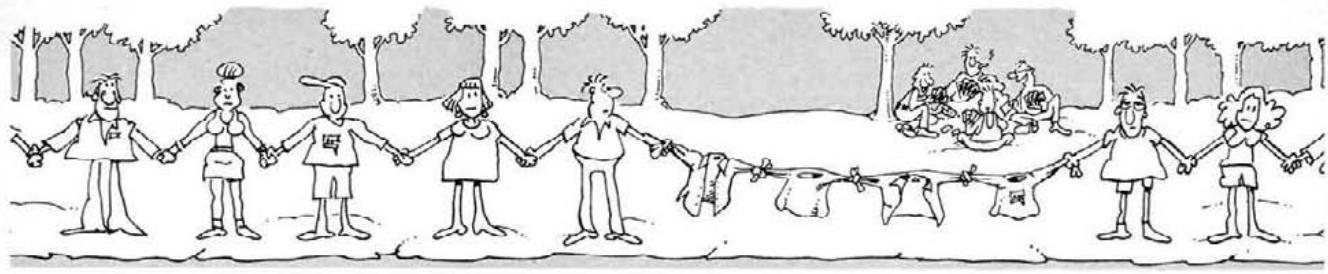


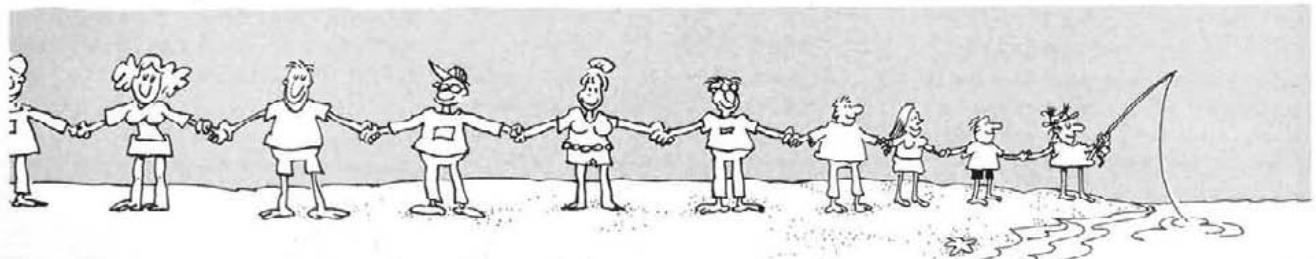
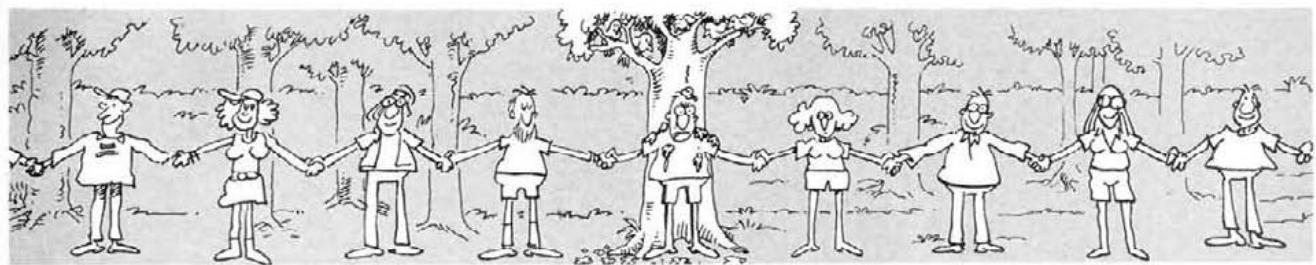
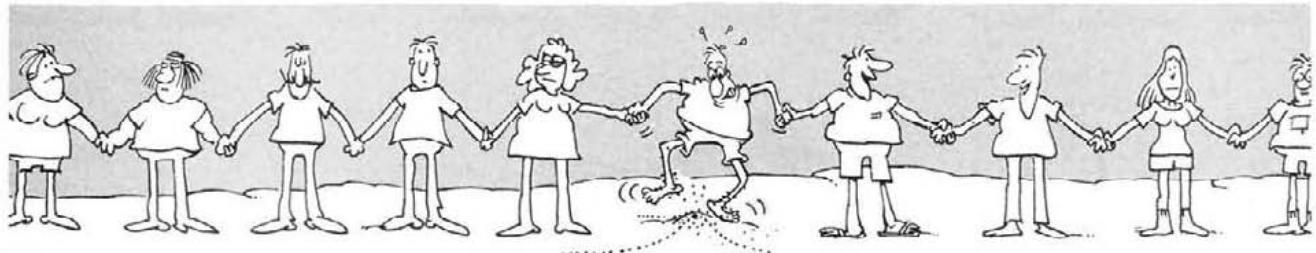
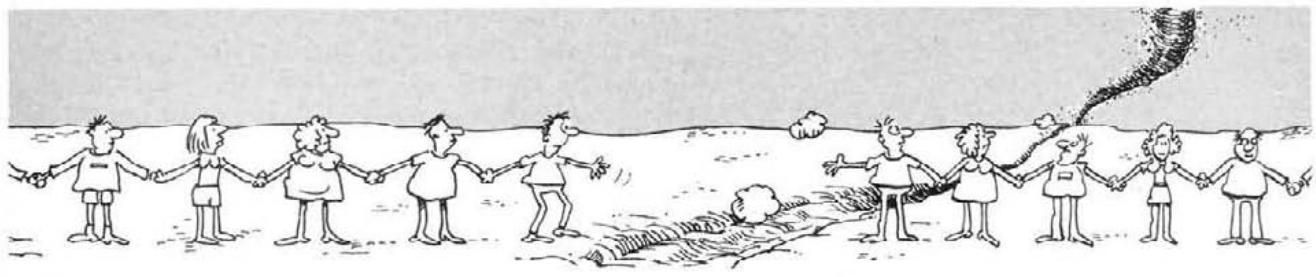
SERGIO ARAGONES DEPT.

A MAD LOOK AT HANDS ACROSS AMERICA

ARTIST AND WRITER: SERGIO ARAGONES



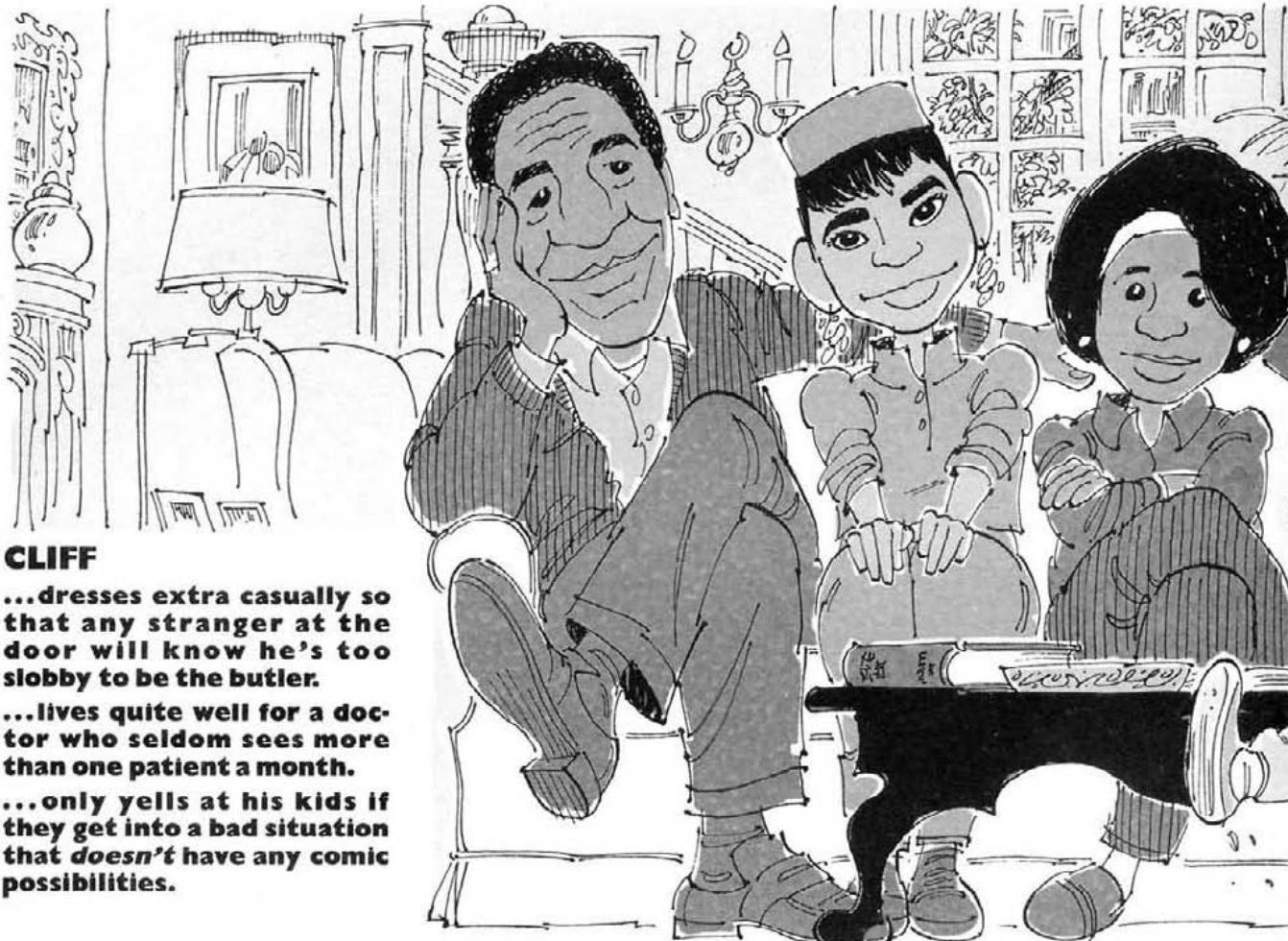




SCORN ON THE COS DEPT.

Once a year, MAD's evil staff rounds up a new collection of revered celebrities and hallowed institutions, and then takes pot shots at them in our annual Nasty File. Normally, we have to search the earth for victims so beloved that no one but us would dare to in-

The COSBY SH



CLIFF

...dresses extra casually so that any stranger at the door will know he's too slobby to be the butler.

...lives quite well for a doctor who seldom sees more than one patient a month.

...only yells at his kids if they get into a bad situation that doesn't have any comic possibilities.

GRANDPA HUXTABLE

...avoids portraying a racial stereotype by depicting a dull, whiny, forgetful old Senior Citizen stereotype.

...displayed his one and only outburst of humor over 45 years ago when he decided to name his son Heathcliff.

...is the sort of man who makes his grandchildren thankful that he lives across town.

DENISE

...has a good head on her shoulders, but it belongs to her boyfriend.

...seems less like a member of the family and more like someone who's just there haunting the house.

...manages to make a "fashion statement" on every show. And that statement is: "PLEASE HELP ME!!"

VANESSA

...looks perpetually worried—as would any girl who knows that she's doomed to be next in line for Denise's hand-me-downs.

...sometimes suffers from an identity crisis because people tend to confuse her with the wallpaper.

...scores points for equality by being as vapid as any white kid on a sit-com!



sult them. But this year, we got lucky. The Nation's sweethearts are all together, right under our noses—on television! And they've got about as much chance for mercy as a long-tailed cat in a roomful of rockers when we begin firing away with a special edition of MAD's

OW Nasty File

ARTIST: PAUL COKER WRITER: TOM KOCH



RUDY

...would be worth about \$50 on the open market, figuring ham at \$1.29 a lb.

...keeps her hair braided so tightly that the tiniest vibration could make her eyes pop out completely.

...should plan to elope with Emmanuel Lewis when she grows up since they obviously deserve each other.

THEO

...is clumsy, stubborn and slow—in other words, just like his father.

...consistently ranks near the top of his class, but only alphabetically.

...helps the world appreciate teenagers for what they really are—deceitful, lazy and oversexed.

CLAIR

...makes decisions that are intelligent, rational, and level-headed—except when choosing a husband!

...has the whole world waiting to hear her secret for keeping a big house overrun by kids spotless without ever cleaning it.

...is caring, sensitive, honest and forthright, and therefore a lousy lawyer.

THE HUXTABLE HOME

...houses a small fortune in fragile furniture and a gang of fumbling children.

...is the type of well-kept New York brownstone that J.R. Ewing would live in—if he could afford it.

...is the only house in Manhattan that has both (a) a basketball hoop on the garage, and (b) a garage.

BREAKING HABITS



BERG'S-EYE VIEW DEPT.

THE LIGHTE

ECONOMICS



SCHOOL SPIRIT



R SIDE OF...

ARTIST & WRITER:
DAVE BERG

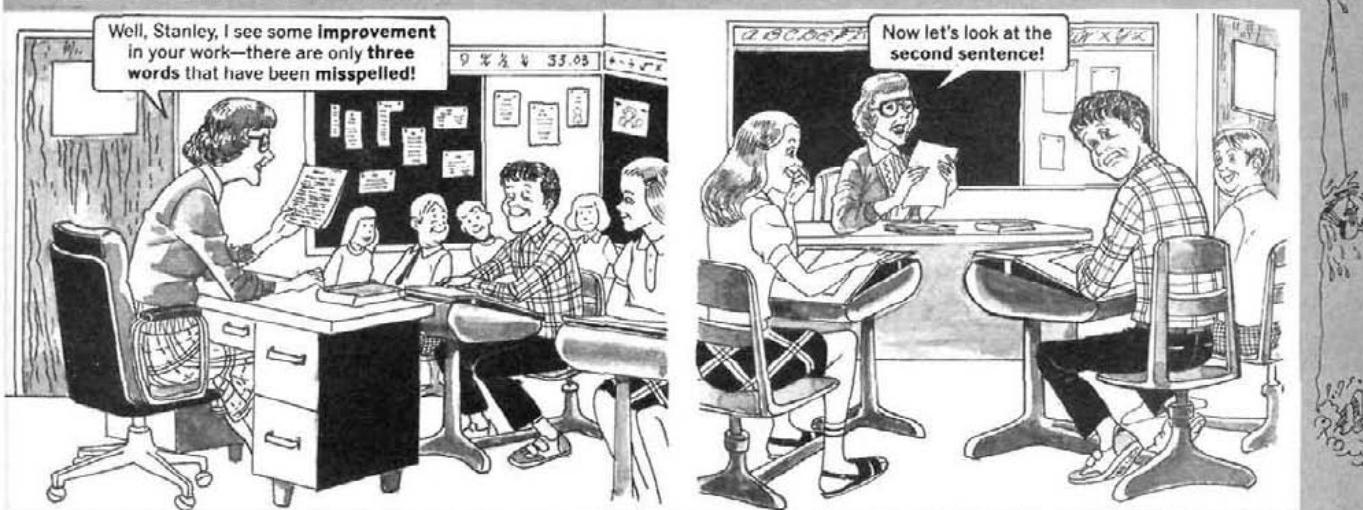
DIVORCE



CRISES



IMPROVEMENT



TRUST



COOKING



CLEANLINESS



GIRL WATCHING



HIGHER EDUCATION

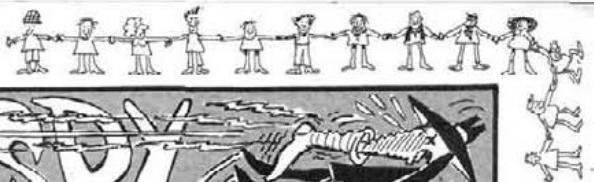


EGOS

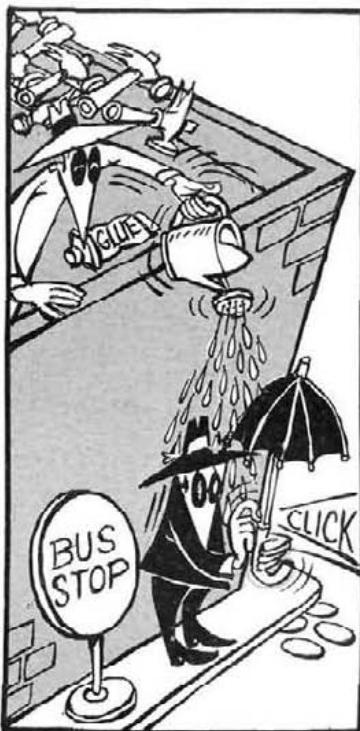


DOCTORS



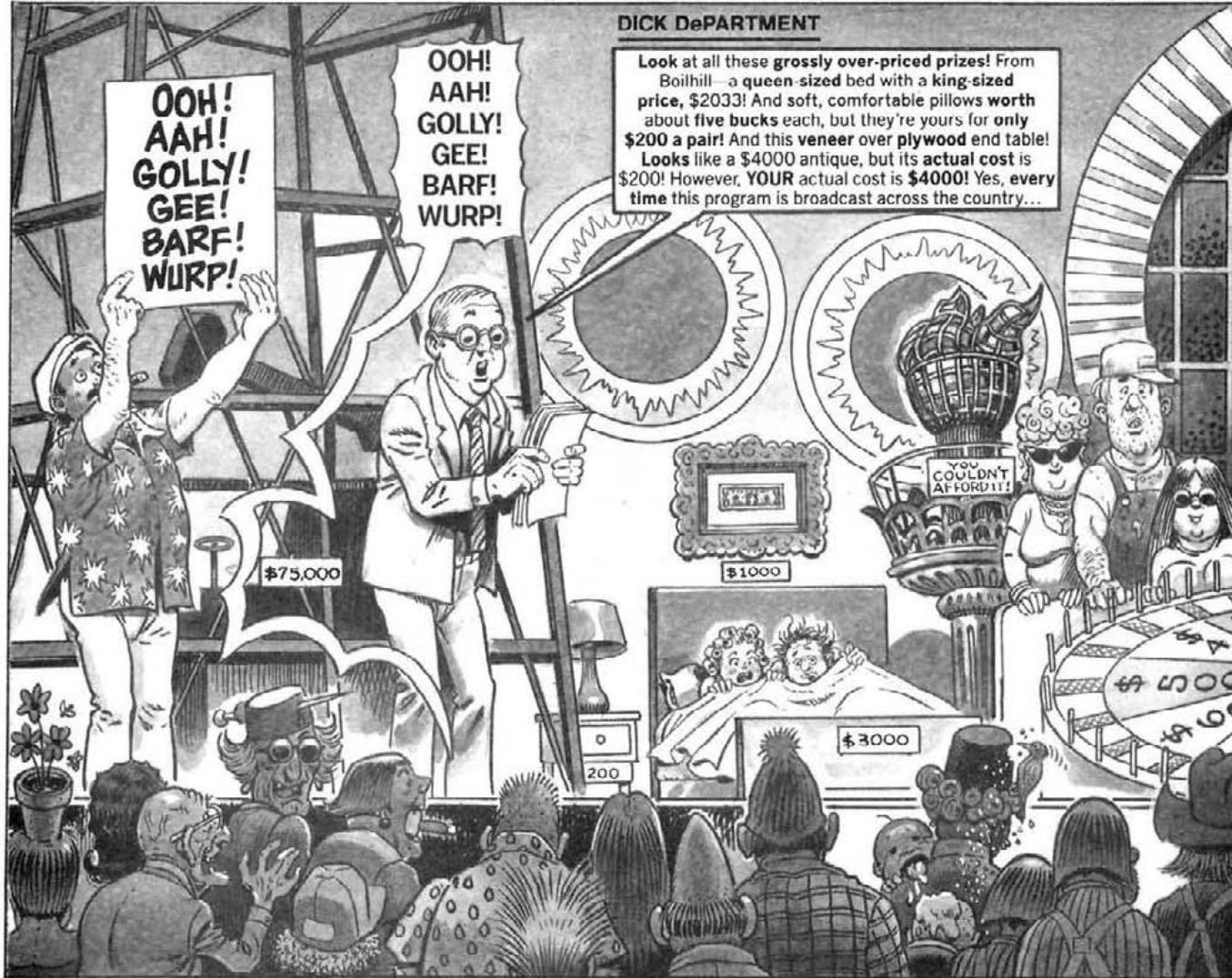


SPY VS SPY



DICK DePARTMENT

Look at all these grossly over-priced prizes! From Boilhill—a queen-sized bed with a king-sized price, \$2033! And soft, comfortable pillows worth about five bucks each, but they're yours for only \$200 a pair! And this veneer over plywood end table! Looks like a \$4000 antique, but its actual cost is \$200! However, YOUR actual cost is \$4000! Yes, every time this program is broadcast across the country...



ARTISTS: WILL ELDER AND HARVEY KURTZMAN

WRITER: DICK DEBARTOLO

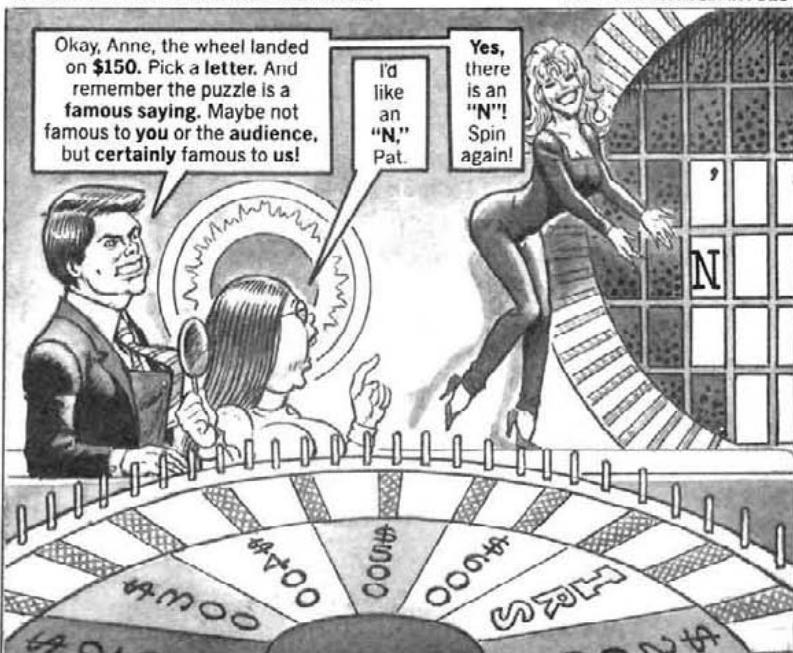
Our first contestant, Anne, will spin the wheel. The amount of money the wheel lands on is multiplied by the number of times the letter she picks is found in the puzzle. However, if we feel you're winning too much money, our computer will credit you with a lower amount. And remember, the object of the game is for the people at home to figure out the puzzle before a contestant does! That way they feel superior and will continue to tune in eleven times each week for their "ego fix"!



Okay, Anne, the wheel landed on \$150. Pick a letter. And remember the puzzle is a famous saying. Maybe not famous to you or the audience, but certainly famous to us!

I'd like an "N," Pat.

Yes, there is an "N"! Spin again!



WE'LL MAKE A FORTUNE

Hi, I'm Pat Somejerk, host of **We'll Make A Fortune!** This is the show that costs little to produce, takes little intelligence to play, has little for me or my lovely co-host **Vanilla Wipe** to do, but has so many plugs for our sponsors' products that **We'll Make A Fortune!** Since our game is nothing more than a rip-off of the old kid's game "Hangman," everyone already knows how to play, so let's get right to it!



I'd like an "L."

Two at \$300 is \$600!

There are two "L's" at \$300 each. That's an additional \$400!

Your job is to solve the puzzle, not do the arithmetic!

Pok!



' L L

N

Do you have a guess?

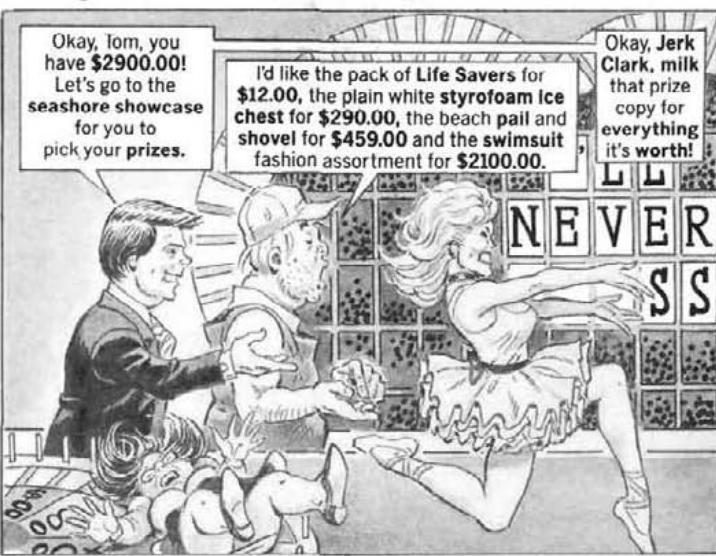
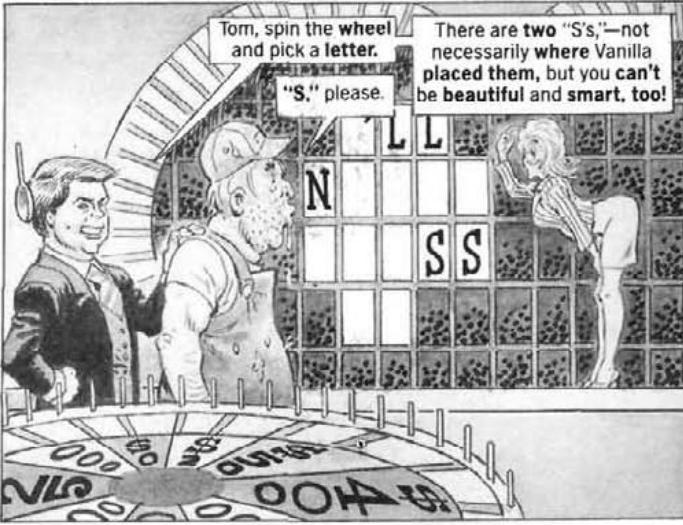
Yeah, I guess I'm being screwed!

No, that's at the portion of the show when you pick the prizes. What do you think the puzzle says?

I have no idea.

There are no "L's" in "I Have No Idea!" Spin again!





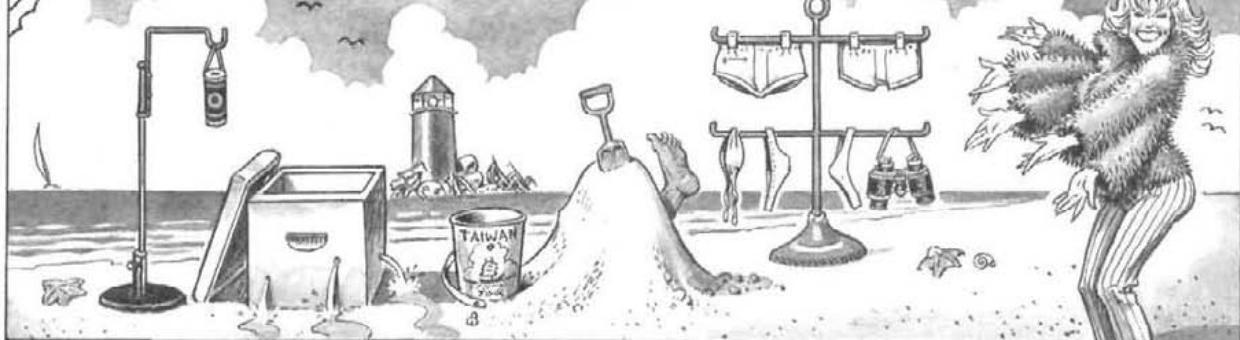


Tom, they're Life Savers! Not just one kind, but a pack of five different Tropical Fruit flavors sealed in foil for freshness! Your cost, \$12.00!

And perfect for the beach, or even that vacation on the Riviera, should you happen to go there, it's this plain white plastic ice chest. Ideal for chilling expensive champagne, which is not included. Provided by the internationally known F.W. Woolworth retail establishment.

Also, this two-tone metal beach pail with matching shovel, imported from far-off Taiwan. Your cost, \$495.00! And finally, this elegant simulated polyester swim-suit collection, from the last word in fine fashion, JC Penney. Total cost of this fantastic seashore package: \$2861.00!

Back to you, Pat!



Wow! Is that some pile...of prizes, I mean! You also have \$39 left over, and we'll put that on a gift certificate which, around here, will buy you some sand for your beach pail!

And now Round Two! We're adding something new and original to the wheel. This gorgeous Pepperoni and Diamond Ring! From Ragu and Apel! This incredible blending of meat and gems can be yours for our price of \$100,000!



Mary, your spin. The puzzle is a "saying." And we'll give you an additional clue. It isn't in English!

Good! I landed on Broadwalk. I'll spin again and try for Park Place!

Wait a second! Someone's been screwing with the wheel! Just pick a letter!



"T," please.

I'm sorry, Mary, no coffee, milk or tea during the program. You should've eaten before!

The letter "T," Patt!

There are two "T's"...or I guess you could say, "T's for Two!" I try and say something clever once a week, and that was it! And just in time! That's the end-of-game buzzer!



I'd like to buy a vowel, fast!

If we're out of time, I'll buy all the vowels!

Why mess around? I'll buy the answer!

Please! Not too much excitement! This isn't The Price Is Right!



Mary, you asked for a vowel first. Which one would you like?

"O," please.

Wow! First time in the history of the program an "E" wasn't picked! Vanilla is so used to contestants picking "E's" that she's given you both the "O's" and "E's"! And...whoops! Vanilla has turned over several other letters by accident while she was looking for the "O's" and "E's"! Have a guess?



Is it the very popular Latin phrase, "Caveat Emptor"?

Yes it is! Caveat Emptor or "Let The Buyer Beware!" Speaking of which, let's pick your prizes in the Office Showcase.

I'd like the silvery-colored stapler for \$200, the matching staples for \$59, and the scotch tape dispenser for \$29. Also, the oak waste paper basket for \$1005. And the remaining \$6 I'll put towards a gift certificate for glue.



Well, that's our show! But Vanilla, we have a minute to chat here. People often ask, is Vanilla's life-long dream just to point to the letters on the puzzle board?

Oh, no, Pat! I want to go on to more exciting things! I hope to one day work in Washington and point to famous Senators or maybe even do investigative reporting and point to some hazardous toxic waste dumps.

And to think some people say you're shallow!



Mr Hughes, today you won the Life Savers, the pail and shovel, the ice chest and the bathing suits.

That's in addition to winning the Kite Collection and String Ensemble yesterday. Well, at the show's RETAIL VALUE of \$4861, you owe the Internal Revenue Service \$1180 in taxes!

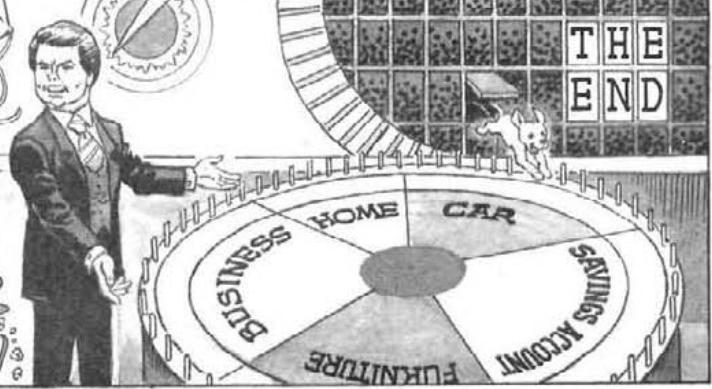


You've got to be kidding! I couldn't even sell those lousy prizes for one tenth that amount! NOBODY goes by the manufacturer's RETAIL PRICE listings!



Oh, yes WE do! But I do have some good news for you! You're now eligible to play the special I.R.S. game for contestants who can't afford the taxes on the prizes they win on game shows. It's called the WHEEL OF FORECLOSURE!!!

Now spin this special wheel to see if we foreclose on your home, your car, your savings account, your furniture or your business!





GABE KOTTER



GILLIGAN



MOTHER

PAST THEIR PRIME TIME DEPT.

MAD'S WHATEVER BECAME OF... ?



ARCHIE BUNKER



FRED SANFORD



LAVERNE DEFAZIO



SHIRLEY FEENEY

TV CHARACTERS' EDITION



MAXWELL SMART



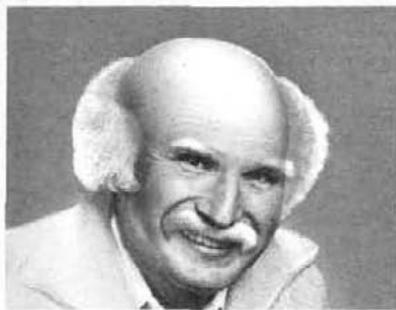
SUE ANNE NIVENS



TATTOO



'COL. WILHELM KLINK



GABE KOTTER
**(OF "WELCOME BACK,
KOTTER")**

Kotter was successfully sued in 1981 by the parents of Epstein, Horschak and Barbarino, who claimed the only things their sons ever learned in his class were corny Henny Youngman jokes. Kotter was subsequently barred from teaching and now works as a hot-dog vendor in Yankee Stadium. In 1983, he sold a "wife gag" to Henny for \$10.



GILLIGAN
(OF "GILLIGAN'S ISLAND")

Following the castaways' ultimate rescue in 1972, Gilligan returned to the mainland and bumbled his way through a series of high-paying jobs obtained through the patronage of Millionaire Industrialist Thurston Howell III. Among his most recent positions: Chief of Operations at Three Mile Island, Safety Inspector for Amtrak, and P.R. Executive for rock star Prince.



ARCHIE BUNKER
**(OF "ARCHIE BUNKER'S
PLACE")**

Archie sold his saloon in 1984 and moved to Washington, D.C., where he now works as a Special Consultant to President Reagan's Affirmative-Action Program.



MAXWELL SMART
(OF "GET SMART")

Smart—Agent 86—became chief of CONTROL by default in 1975 when the spy agency was gutted by Congress in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal. In 1979, he was transferred to the State Department, where he now serves as head of the Middle Eastern Bureau's Embassy Security Division. He and his wife, 99, have two children, 41 and 35—now 13 and 9, respectively.



**LAVERNE DEFazio
AND
SHIRLEY FEENEY**
(OF "LAVERNE AND SHIRLEY")

Laverne DeFazio died tragically in a bizarre accident at a practical joke and novelty factory in 1979. Shirley Feeney, now 51, still works on the Shotz Brewery assembly line and still hasn't let a guy "go past first base."





COL. WILHELM KLINK
(OF "HOGAN'S HEROES")

After the Third Reich fell, Klink managed to escape the full wrath of the Nuremberg Trials (he was found guilty of nothing more than "comic ineptitude"). His whereabouts for the following two decades are still something of a mystery, but he did re-surface in 1968 to open a center for holistic health and assertiveness training in Big Sur, California. (It remains successful to this day.)



FRED SANFORD
(OF "SANFORD AND SON")

In 1983, Fred Sanford, the ne'er-do-well junk dealer from Los Angeles, became one of only three businessmen to sign up for the government's Nuclear Waste Site Program. After storing high-level waste plutonium for two years in son Lamont's old bedroom, Fred is now suing Uncle Sam for "a billion million gazillion dollars," claiming wrongful exposure to "atomic cooties." The case is being handled by close friend and "People's Court" watcher Grady Jackson.



MOTHER
(OF "MY MOTHER, THE CAR")

Son Dave Crabtree's financial setbacks forced him to sell Mother to an alcoholic steel-worker, who rammed her into a tree off the Pennsylvania Turnpike in 1974. She was sold for scrap, melted down and now serves as a girder on the 12th story of an office building in Phoenix.



TATTOO
(OF "FANTASY ISLAND")

Tattoo, Mr. Rourke's lecherous-but-lovable assistant, was left jobless with few real skills when Fantasy Island was invaded in 1983 by U.S. Marines seeking to prevent a Soviet takeover. He worked briefly as a porno movie actor in Tijuana, a department store lingerie salesman, and a cashier in a video game arcade —where he was arrested. He is now awaiting trial on charges of indecent exposure and lewd mumbling.



SUE ANNE NIVENS
(OF "THE MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW")

Sue Anne, the "Happy Homemaker" of WJM-TV in Minneapolis, moved up to her own cable show in 1977, where she was noticed by a Hollywood producer casting a new prime-time drama. She moved to L.A., but, after extensive screen-testing, lost the role—to Joan Collins. Sue Anne and her agent are now "in negotiations" with ABC, NBC, CBS and a dinner theatre near Akron.

HOW NOW HIGH BROW DEPT.

Today's world is cluttered with an endless variety of snobs. We've all encountered the kind that can recite whole pages from Shakespeare, but never bothered to memorize a single quote from Yogi Berra. Then, there

is the snob who boasts of his many visits to the art museum, even though he still hasn't been to a Wrestling match once. However, the world's most common form of snob is the one who claims that the only

HOW PBS REALLY DIFFERS



Commercial TV caters to our lowest instincts by portraying lust and greed among the filthy rich of Dallas in 1986.



P.B.S. caters to our thirst for history by portraying manners and customs among the privileged class of London in 1895.



On commercial TV, Merv Griffin fawns over bubbly Hollywood entertainers just because sexy young starlets bring out something obnoxious in him.



On P.B.S., Louis Rukeyser fawns over mumbling Wall Street advisors just because shriveled old men bring out something weird in him.



On commercial TV, T.J. Hooker miraculously solves six crimes during a single week's show.



On P.B.S., Sergeant Cribb meticulously solves one crime during a six-week series.

TV shows worth watching are those of the Public Broadcasting System. Many of us lower creatures accept this snob's eye view of television without argument, and just assume that PBS programming is for deep thinkers,

while commercial TV is for idiots like ourselves. But now, MAD dares to ask the penetrating question: Says who?!? Our lowbrow staff has sought to find the answer, and we herewith offer our impartial findings on:



S FROM COMMERCIAL TV

ARTIST: HARRY NORTH

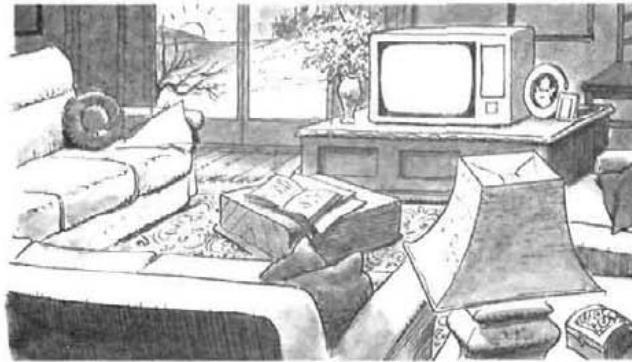
WRITER: TOM KOCH



Commercial TV calls it "entertainment" when some heavyweight picks Door Number 2, and is rewarded with a \$300 washing machine that she doesn't need.



P.B.S. calls it "enlightenment" when the same lardo gives \$300 to the station's annual pledge drive and is rewarded with a T-shirt that she shouldn't wear.



In a cowardly fashion, commercial TV airs its serious public affairs programs on Sunday morning because that's when virtually no one is watching.



Boldly, P.B.S. airs its serious public affairs program during prime time every night of the week because virtually no one is ever watching.



On commercial TV, half-hour shows actually end in 28 minutes so the network can throw in three quick ads for a deodorant, a dandruff cure, and a hemorrhoid suppository.



On P.B.S., half-hour shows actually end in 26 minutes so the station can throw in three long program promotions for "Death in Central America," "Spotlight on Abortion" and "Our Rotting Slums, Part IV". 33

THE MALADY LINGERS ON DEPT.

Old TV shows never die, they just go into syndication! Unfortunately, the same can be said for their ridiculous opening themes! With that in mind, MAD now looks back on four popular tunes you can hum, sing and quickly forget! Here's MAD's...

M*A*S*H



Those copters flying in once more
Bring in the wounded by the score;
So what's a little blood and gore
When Hawkeye's here with quips galore?
'Cause sewin' someone's gut up
Is fun when you're a cut-up,
And much more entertaining on TV!

Those bullet holes, they make a mess,
And open wounds, they just depress,
But Klinger in a see-through dress—
Well, that's the road to sure success!
When shrapnel's in the colon,
Just keep that laugh-track rollin'—
It's much more entertaining on TV!

The rules of M*A*S*H we all obey—
A GI's death is deemed okay
Unless it's getting in the way
Of Hawkeye cracking up B.J.!
Who cares if someone's dyin'—
We'll keep those wisecracks flyin'
They're much more entertaining on TV!



THE MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW

Who can make it big...in her car-eer?
Who can reach the peak of fame
And sud-denly find...it's down-hill from here?
Well, it's Mar-y—and now we know...it!
Who'd..have..thought with all of her acclaim that—
She'd blow...it!
Rhoda stayed on top—
So did Ted Bax-ter;
Mary traveled on—
And soon they axed...her!
She nev-er..made..it..af-ter..all!

She can still bounce back—don't think she can't!
Even though it's now too late
For try-ing to get...a job on "Lou Grant!"
Maybe youthful roles...don't quite suc-ceed...now—
Maybe "Golden Girls"...is more her speed now!
She just might make it af-ter..all!



MEMORABLE SONGS

ARTIST: SAM VIVIANO

WRITER: FRANK JACOBS

THE FLINTSTONES

*Flint-stones! What are Flint-stones?
They're a rip-off like you've nev-er...seen!
Flint-stones! Fighting Flint-stones!
They're "The Honeymooners" lift-ed...clean!
See...how...they keep battling all day through!
Let's...hope...some day...that Gleason will sue!
When...you...watch the Flint-stones—
You'll soon realize that Barn-ey
Is no...Art...Carn-ey!
It happens ev-ry...time!*



*Flint-stones! Flaky Flint-stones!
Where the animation's for...the...birds!
Flint-stones! Dig those Flint-stones!
When they talk, their lips don't match...the...words!
You'll...love...all their clever Stone Age schticks—
If.your.I.Q....is below 46!
Tune...in...to the Flint-stones!
Fred and Wilma soon will show..up
And then...you'll...throw..up!
It happens ev-ry...time!*



THE TONIGHT SHOW



MONDAY

*Here's the "To-night..Show"—
Wow! What a treat!
Till you dis-cov-er
It's a repeat...*

TUESDAY

*Here's the "To-night..Show"—
Seen coast-to-coast!
Carson won't be..here—
Shandling's your host...*

WEDNESDAY

*Here's the "To-night..Show"—
Some show we've got!
Ed's here as al-ways—
Johnny is not...*

THURSDAY

*Here's the "To-night..Show"—
Long may it reign!
Doc's here with mus-ic—
Johnny's in Spain...*

FRIDAY

*Here's the "To-night..Show"—
Still in high gear!
Starring Joan Riv-(oops)—
LOOK! JOHNNY'S HERE!*



**For Outstanding Achievement In
Stretching A "Two-Hour Idea"
Into A Five-Part Mini-Series**



**Best Performance By An Actor
Or Actress In A Talk Show
"Plug" For A Failing Series**



STATUES OF LIMITATIONS DEPT.

TV EMMY AWARDS



**Best Dramatic Series Kept On By A
Network As An Example of "Quality
Programming"...Despite The Fact
That No One Ever Watches It**



**For Outstanding Achievement In
Creating A Maudlin, Tear-Jerking
Scene In A SitCom When The Writers
Couldn't Think Of A Funny Ending**

**Outstanding Achievement In SitCom
Writing For the Best-Disguised
"Re-Working" Of An Old "I Love Lucy" Plot**



**Most Innovative Use Of A Car-Chase
Wind-Up In An Action/Adventure
Series To Cover Up Bad Writing**



WE'D LIKE TO SEE



ARTIST: MICHAEL MONTGOMERY

WRITER: MIKE SNIDER



**Best Scene Or Line Of Dialogue
Used Out-Of-Context In A Network
Promo To Make A Show Look More
Titillating Than It Actually Is**



**For Outstanding Achievement In
Packing A Dramatic Show Episode With
Over-The-Hill "Guest Stars" That
Nobody's Heard Of For Over Ten Years**

THICKE TO OUR STOMACHS DEPT.

A few years ago when Alan Thicke's excessively boring late night talk show was taken off the air it was cause for TV viewers everywhere to rejoice. Unfortunately the multi-untalented Thicke is back with a new show and it's giving us...

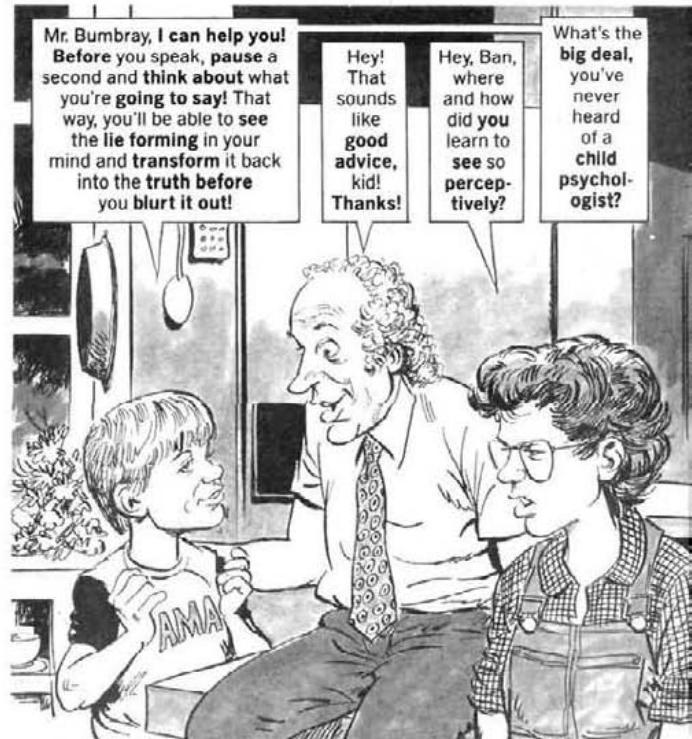
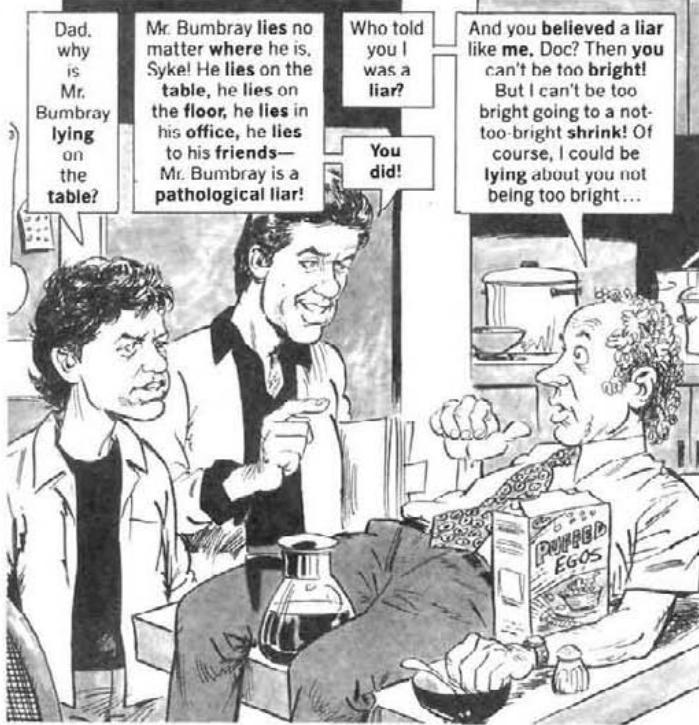
G



roaning Pains

ARTIST: ANGELO TORRES

WRITER: LOU SILVERSTONE WITH DICK DE BARTOLO



Have a nice day, everyone!

Wait a second,
Bumbray! What
about my fee?

I'll put your check in the ma—
oops! I almost lied! The truth
is I'm not ever going to mail you
a check! I plan on screwing you
out of the money, Deseaver!

See,
don't
you feel
better
about not
lying, Mr.
Bumbray?

You know
something,
kid, I
feel
pretty
terrific
about it!

Yeah, well why
is it I don't
feel so good
about your
sudden switch
to honesty?

Why don't you
talk to this
kid about it?
He may be able
to cure even
a helpless
case like you!

Now will everyone
please
butt out
and let me
handle my
next patient?

You've got to help me,
Doc! I'm always so
anxious! It's awful!
Even now I can hear
my nerves snap,
crackle, and pop!

Oh, this is
precious!
That's not
your nerves—
you're lying
in a bowl of
Rice Krispies!

What
can
you
do to
help
me
calm
down?

We must delve
into your
childhood,
explore your
feelings since
birth, examine
the dark
recesses of...

Just take a
deep breath,
count to ten,
and you'll
feel a whole
lot better,
mister!

...and most of all
we must get rid of
that child's voice
in your ear...
...that voice
you think you've
just heard giving
you advice!

Hey, thanks a lot, kid!
The breathing tip really
helped—I feel a lot
better now than when
I first came in! That
boy of yours is quite a
little treasure, Doc!

Yeah? Well,
the pirates
had the right
idea about
treasures—
bury them!

Hah hah!
Always
making
jokes,
eh,
Doc?

How come
when I say
something
serious,
everyone
thinks I'm
kidding?

Doc, I feel
100% normal!
How much do
I owe you
for the
cure?

I'll just
charge you
for the
session—
76 dollars!

But I thought
the charge
was \$75 per
session! Why
the extra buck?

That's
for the
Rice
Krispies,
creep!





And what
hilarious
neurosis
does this
patient
have?

I'm
Edward
Hughes,
a rather
adorable
klepto-
maniac!

Gee, Dad,
is it safe
to have a
maniac
loose in
our house?

Sure! We
have your
brother,
Syke,
with us,
don't
we?

Actually, Ban,
"**Crazy Eddie**"
isn't really
insane!
Kleptomaniacs
just have a
compulsion
to steal!

Great! Maybe he
can steal you
some funny lines,
Dad! You've been
under too much
stress trying to
come up with
your own!

The
school
bus
is
here,
kids!
**All
out!**

It was nice
meeting you,
Mr. Hughes!
If you're
hanging out
at the mall,
I can use a
new stereo!

Syke, Mr. Hughes
is a sick man!
Besides, you'll
have to wait
your turn—your
mom ordered a
microwave and I
asked for a VCR!



LATER ONE EVENING

Yes, that's
right! One
with sausage,
one plain,
one with
mushrooms,
and one with
everything...

Isn't Mom
terrific?
She works all
day and still
finds time to
order dinner
out every
night!

Do you
think
we'll
ever
have a
meal
Mom
cooked?

There's an
outside
chance if
Mr. Hughes
steals that
microwave
she asked
him for!

Hey, gang,
try not to
drip sauce
on the table!
Patients are
complaining
about "food
stains"!

Let's act
like we're
really
interested
in the kids!
How was
class today,
Carob?

Gross! We're
supposed to
bring our
fathers to
class for
demonstrations
about their
professions!

What's
so
gross
about
that?

Well, Meg's
father is a
proctologist,
and he
showed...

Don't be
gross!



That's enough interest in
the kids! Now let's talk
about my favorite subject—
me! Today I had a really
fascinating patient, a
truly split personality!
He was half gentle person
and half deranged killer!

Wow!
Were
you
able
to
cure
him?

Yep! Now he's just
a totally deranged
killer! I believe
it's better to
make a person whole,
to be something
rather than just a
wishes-washy nothing!

Hmm...
That's
like
the
bland
leading
the
bland!

I had a **good day**, too! I made a
move on that blonde cheer-
leader, exchanged numbers
with that doll in my chem
class, and had lunch with
the entire girls' volleyball team!

Now I know why
you're always **too**
tired to do your
homework! You
should be
grounded!



Let's not be **too hasty**, Muggie! We **therapists** believe in reaching out to people with **normal, typical problems**, and Syke, here, is just a **normal teenager with typical problems**...

His problems are **normal** and **typical** only for **wild animals in heat!**

Syke, don't you realize that **books** can be as **important** and as **pleasurable** as girls?

Frankly, I think those who'd rather **curl up in bed with a good book** have the **problems!**

Your ceiling's finished, Doc! By the **second coat**, I got over the feeling I was Michelangelo—that hack would never give **two coats** to a ceiling job! I'll write you out a check...

Fine! Make it for **150 bucks**, Picasso!

How come, Doc? I thought your consultation fee was **75.00**!

Yes, but you have to pay the **ceiling price**! It took two **coats** to cure you, remember?



And please **come back** if you ever feel you're another famous person, like "Mr. Clean"!

Why do you say that? Is it my **bald spot**? Do I look like "Mr. Clean"? I'm so **easily influenced** by others that I become the person I think they really want me to be!

The only way you can find out if you really are "Mr. Clean" is by scrubbing the **upstairs bathroom**, polishing the new **microwave oven** and washing off the **kitchen couch**...er, I mean the **kitchen table**!

Dad's moved back to his office and he's got a **brand new patient**, so walk very quietly!

Don't worry, Carob, I won't disturb him!

It's me I don't want you to **disturb**! I'm trying to listen through the door!



Okay, Muggie, that was **very good**! You got out all your little **hostilities** and I'm sure you're feeling better already! And to make you feel **even better**, I'm only going to charge you **\$50.00** for this session instead of the **usual \$75.00**! How's that?



Actually I feel better **now** that I've **acted out my hostility** instead of just talking about it! As a matter of fact, I feel **so good** I'm going to give you the full **\$75.00**! How's that?



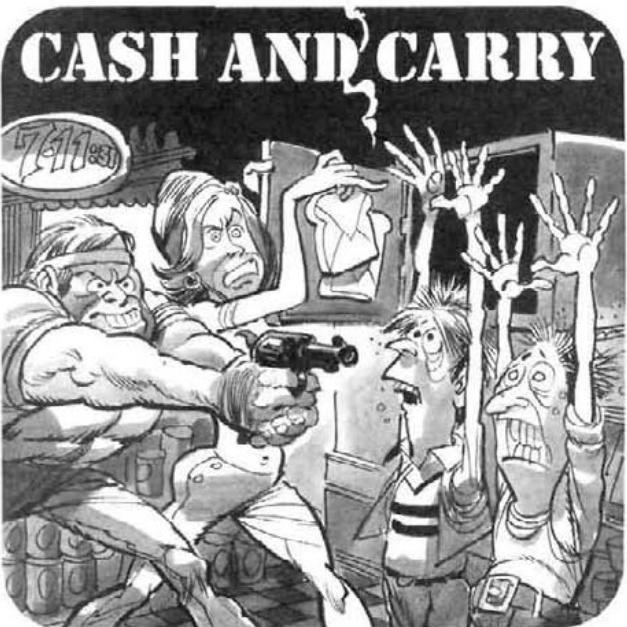
When it comes to police shows on TV, the networks have been very successful in feeding us viewers a steady diet of cop "teams," a pair of dedicated crimefighters with colorful personalities and even more colorful names: Cagney & Lacey, Simon & Simon, Hardcastle & McCormick, Scarecrow & Mrs. King, Starsky & Hutch, Macgruder & Loud, Tenspeed & Brownshoe, and so on. We figure it won't be long before network execs *really* reach the bottom of the barrel and get so gimmicky in their lame attempts to attract viewers that they introduce these...

UPCOMING TV COP "TEAMS"



ARTIST: JACK DAVIS

WRITER: CHARLIE KADAU



Cash is Sgt. Augie "Cash" Pooster. Carry is Det. Gloria "Carry" Bunting. Together, they keep the aisles of Detroit's 7-11 stores safe for middle-of-the-night shoppers. In the first episode, the team is pushed to its breaking point as Cash and Carry come face to face with a gang of thugs who heat their sandwiches in the store's microwave *before* paying for them.



Victor Mop and Walter Glo are the two top forensics experts at the FBI. The catch? They're also compulsive neat-freaks. At murder scenes, after dusting for fingerprints, they can't keep themselves from polishing, mopping and vacuuming. Since the producers are so confident that Mop & Glo will be a hit, they've already begun work on a spinoff series called Spic And Span.

BITCH & MOAN



In this series' pilot episode, rookie cops Douglas Bitch and Cindy Moan are assigned to the same squad car, leaving them more than enough time for their favorite activity: complaining! Whether it be about their

itchy uniforms, their hard-nosed sergeant, the lousy shift, the crummy pension plan, each other's bad habits, or anything else that comes to mind, Bitch and Moan do nothing but grumble for 60 solid minutes.

BACON & EGGS



As soon as Harlan County Deputies Jack Bacon and Andy Eggs go on duty, they head straight for Edna's Diner, where they spend the next eight hours belly-up to the counter enjoying breakfast, chatter with truckers and Edna's bottomless coffee pot. In the unlikely case smugglers, hijackers or serial killers stop by, they've got to deal with Jack and Andy!

SURF & TURF



Asbury Park's Danny Surf and Danny Turf are Private Investigators who share the same first name and only accept cases which can be solved without leaving the beach or boardwalk area. Because of this, most episodes revolve around car keys lost in the sand, rigged amusement pier arcade games and illegal taffy operations.

BLACK & DECKER



Plainclothes detectives Leo Black and Harry Decker work undercover for the Chicago Police Department. Unable to carry handguns, billy clubs or handcuffs, they use power tools to protect themselves and bring outlaws to justice. This season, Black and Decker foil a hijacking with a power drill, uncover corruption in City Hall with a sabre saw and round up a prostitution ring using an orbital sander. A must-see for crime buffs and carpenters alike.

Dazed & Confused



When a case that really isn't important comes up, it's assigned to detectives Chet "Dazed" Harris and Cliff "Confused" Anderson. The pair can always be counted on to not only misunderstand their instructions, but to completely forget who they're looking for. They become handcuffed to each other at least twice each episode and frequently misplace their squad car. Despite this, they solve a case each week—but not necessarily the one they're trying to.

Dead & Buried



Dick Dead and Barry Buried are not your average run-of-the-mill private eyes. Using East Indian breath control techniques, they can remain completely stiff and motionless for hours at a time. This, coupled with their ability to

give off the smell of decaying flesh, makes them the perfect pair for infiltrating hideouts of organized crime kingpins, who have no misgivings about revealing their secret plans in the presence of what they think are corpses.

Because we at MAD truly care about what our readers think, we have commissioned a series of special polls scientifically tailored to reflect your views and opinions on matters of im-

MAD'S READER

PART I:



- 1.) Which pair of TV characters are the least significant: The two female detectives on *Miami Vice* or the two male detectives on *Cagney And Lacey*?
____ *Mary*
____ *Newhart*
____ *Valerie*
- 2.) Which TV show title reflects the most creativity?
____ *Mary*
____ *Newhart*
____ *Valerie*
- 3.) Which *Saturday Night Live* alumnus has gone on to greatest success?
____ *Gary Kroger*
____ *Brad Hall*
____ *Robin Duke*
- 4.) Which causes a stronger reaction among the American viewing public: Heather Locklear in a V-neck sweater or Dan Rather in a V-neck sweater?
- 5.) Who looks tallest on a three-inch diameter TV screen?
____ *Gary Coleman*
____ *Emmanuel Lewis*
____ *Dr. Ruth Westheimer*
- 6.) Which TV sitcom would be in the least amount of trouble if the use of a laugh track was suddenly banned from network television?
____ *Punky Brewster*
____ *Silver Spoons*
____ *Gimme A Break*
- 7.) Which made more sense: The filming of the 85-6 season premiere of *Magnum, P.I.* in rainy England instead of sunny Hawaii, or the filming of the 85-6 season premiere of *Miami Vice* in New York City instead of Miami?
- 8.) Which of the following telethons do viewers feel most guilty about never watching?
____ Muscular Dystrophy
____ Multiple Sclerosis
____ United Negro College Fund
- 9.) What is currently the single worst time slot on television?
____ Preceding *Sunrise Semester*
____ Opposite *The Cosby Show*
____ Following *Roger Mudd's American Almanac*
- 10.) Which TV actor has had an easier time making the transition from TV to movies: Henry Winkler or Tom Selleck?
- 11.) Who has done the most on television to set back the image of their representative group?
____ *Who's The Boss'* Tony Danza (Italians)
____ *Golden Girl's* Estelle Getty (Senior Citizens)
____ *Dynasty's* Joan Collins (Senior Citizens)

portance not only to our society, but to the entire world as well. So take off your shoes, sit back, and with a pencil, pen, magic marker or paint roller, answer the questions in...

OPINION POLL

TELEVISION

WRITER: JOHN PRETF

12. Which TV star most overestimated their importance to a show when they tried to squeeze more money out of the show's producers?

- Suzanne Sommers (*Three's Company*)
- Larry Hagman (*Dallas*)
- Herve Villechaize (*Fantasy Island*)

13. On which TV show is the program's contents most unbelievable?

- Dynasty*
- Lifestyles Of The Rich And Famous*
- World Wrestling Federation Superstars Of Wrestling*
- The NBC Nightly News With Tom Brokaw*

14. During the 85-86 TV season, who was easier to understand: O.J. Simpson on *Monday Night Football*, Joe Namath on *Monday Night Football* or Lt. Castillo on *Miami Vice*?

15. What is the silliest name TV writers have ever come up with?

- Beaver
- Opie
- Festus
- Tattoo
- Lurch
- J.R.



16. Which TV characters live most within their financial means, given their TV profession?

- Crockett and Tubbs (police detectives in *Miami*)
- The Golden Girls (retirees on *Social Security*)
- The Equalizer (one-man vigilante squad who never discusses his fee)

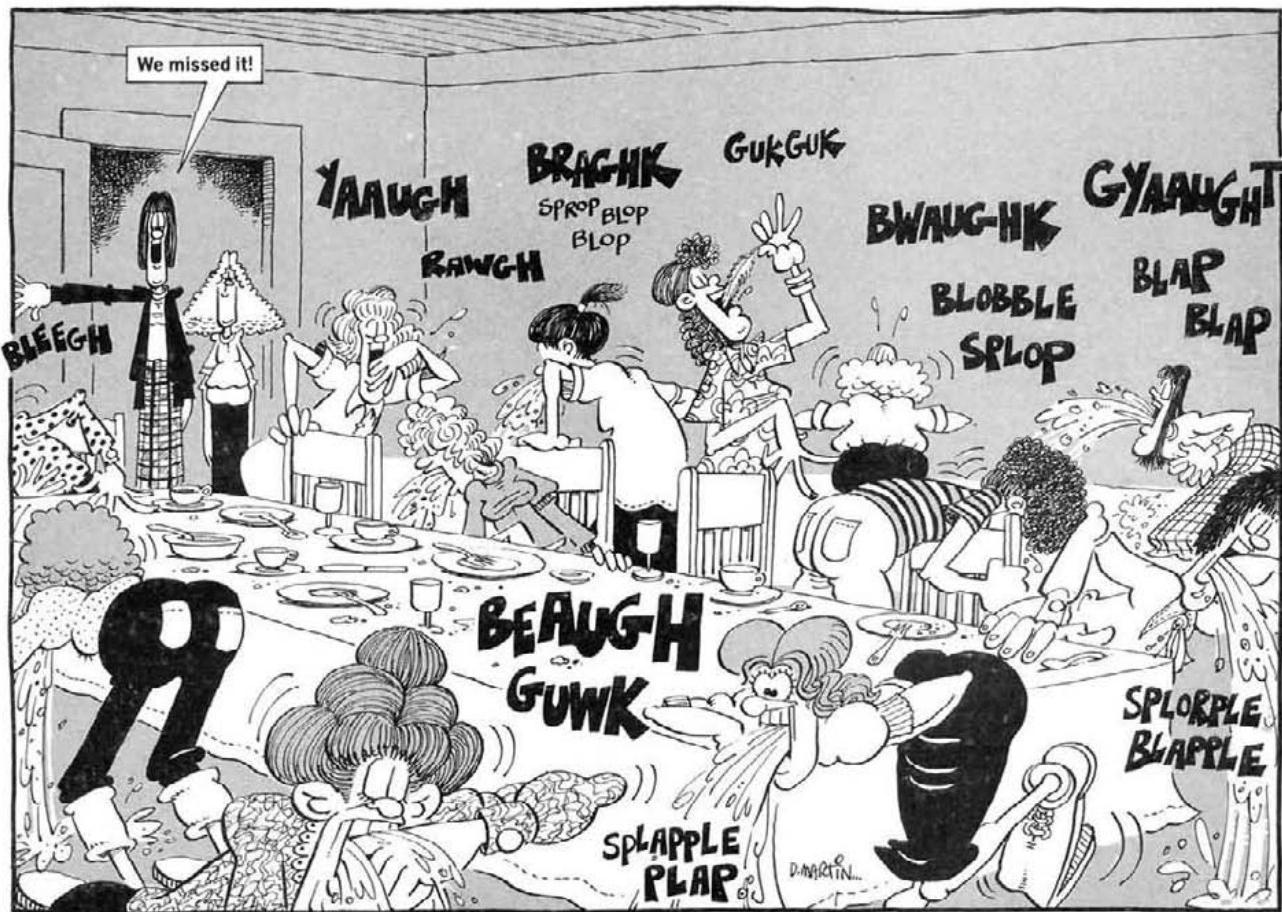
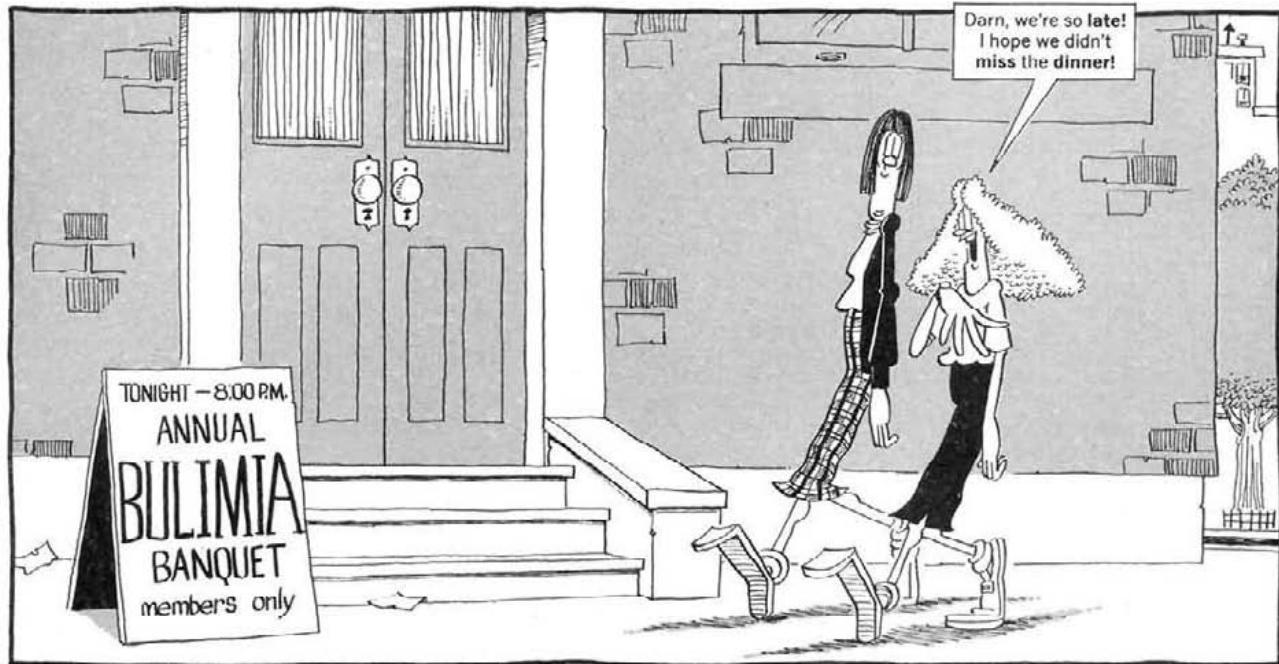
17. Which set of TV characters is most likely to give in to the never-acknowledged sexual tension that exists between them and slip between the sheets?

- Matty and David (*Moonlighting*)
- Tony and Angela (*Who's The Boss?*)
- Amanda and Scarecrow (*Scarecrow And Mrs. King*)
- Rick and DeeDee (*Hunter*)
- Hugh Downs and Barbara Walters (*20/20*)



Thank you for taking part in our reader poll and helping to influence the television viewing habits of people everywhere! In order to make your opinions known where they'll count, send copies of your completed polls to the following men in envelopes marked "Private-Confidential": Brandon Stoddard, Pres. ABC Entertainment, 1330 6th Ave., NY, NY 10019; Bud Grant, Pres. CBS Entertainment, 51 West 52nd Street, NY, NY 10019; Brandon Tartikoff, Pres. NBC Entertainment, 30 Rockefeller Plz., NY, NY 10020.

ONE THURSDAY EVENING ON WEST 12th STREET



**WHAT KIND OF
AID IS THE
ADMINISTRATION
OFFERING
THE AMERICAN
FARMER?**

HERE WE GO WITH ANOTHER RIDICULOUS **MAD FOLD-IN**

The American farmer is in trouble and desperately needs some kind of help. Fold the page in as shown to find out what the government is going to give him.



FOLD PAGE OVER LIKE THIS!

A►

FOLD BACK SO "A" MEETS "B"

◀B FOLD THIS SECTION OVER LEFT



**FARMERS ARE IN TROUBLE WITH BIG LOANS ON
HOMES, LAND, AND FARM EQUIPMENT. THE ONLY COURSE
LEFT IS TO SEEK AID FROM GOVERNMENT SOURCES...**

A►

◀B

